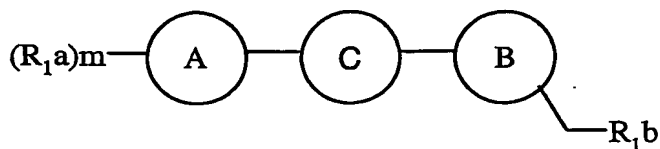


**Claims**

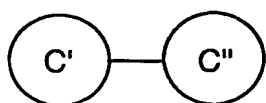
1. A compound of the formula (I), or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt, or an in-vivo-hydrolysable ester thereof,



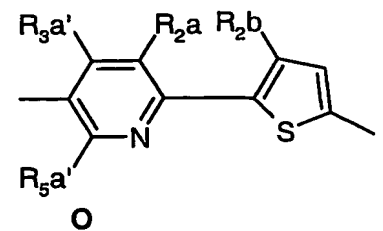
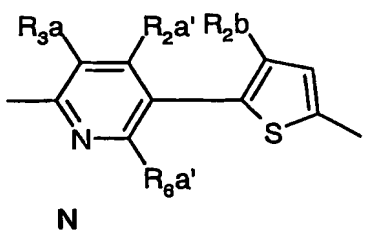
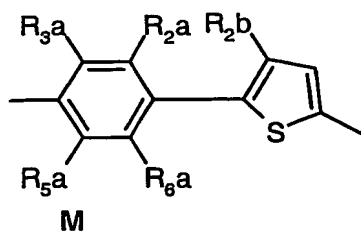
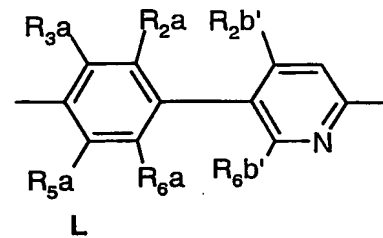
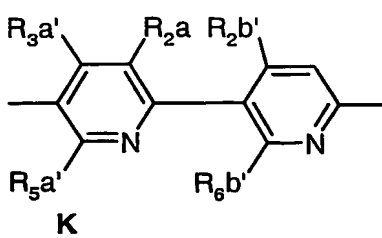
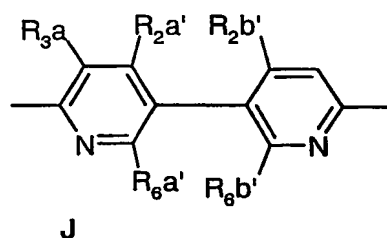
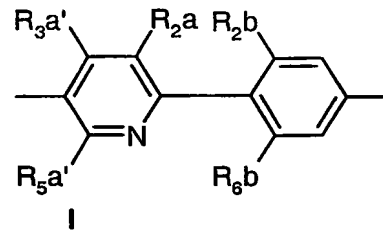
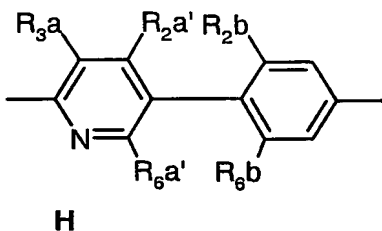
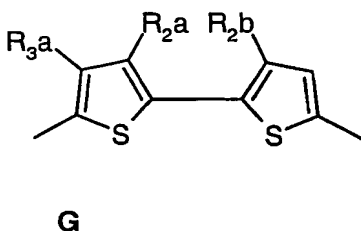
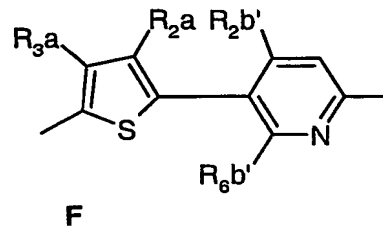
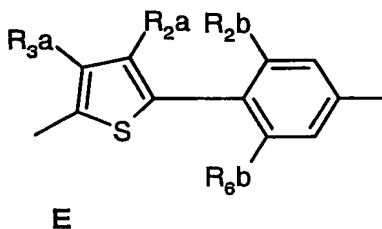
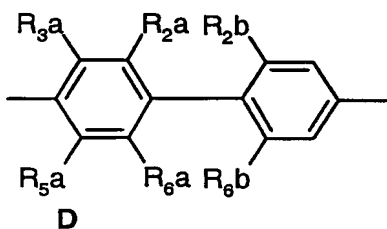
5

(I)

wherein in (I) C is a biaryl group C'-C''



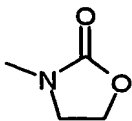
where C' and C'' are independently aryl or heteroaryl rings such that the group C is represented by any one of the groups D to O below:



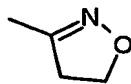
wherein the groups D to O are attached to rings A and B in the orientation [(A-C') and (C''-B)] shown;

wherein A and B are independently selected from

i)



ii)



and

wherein A is linked as shown in (I) via the 3-position to ring C' of group C and independently substituted in the 4 and 5 positions as shown in (I) by one or more substituents  $-(R_{1a})_m$ ;

and wherein B is linked as shown in (I) via the 3-position to ring C'' of group C and

10 independently substituted in the 5 position as shown in (I) by substituent  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-R}_{1b}$ ;

$R_{2b}$  and  $R_{6b}$  are independently selected from H, F, Cl, OMe, SMe, Me, Et and  $\text{CF}_3$ ;

$R_{2b'}$  and  $R_{6b'}$  are independently selected from H, OMe, Me, Et and  $\text{CF}_3$ ;

$R_{2a}$  and  $R_{6a}$  are independently selected from H, Br, F, Cl, OMe, SMe, Me, Et and  $\text{CF}_3$ ;

$R_{2a'}$  and  $R_{6a'}$  are independently selected from H, OMe, SMe, Me, Et and  $\text{CF}_3$ ;

15  $R_{3a}$  and  $R_{5a}$  are independently selected from H, (1-4C)alkyl, Br, F, Cl, OH, (1-4C)alkoxy,  $-\text{S}(\text{O})_n(1-4\text{C})\text{alkyl}$  (wherein  $n = 0, 1, \text{or } 2$ ), amino, (1-4C)alkylcarbonylamino-, nitro, cyano,  $-\text{CHO}$ ,  $-\text{CO}(1-4\text{C})\text{alkyl}$ ,  $-\text{CONH}_2$  and  $-\text{CONH}(1-4\text{C})\text{alkyl}$ ;

$R_{3a'}$ ,  $R_{5a'}$  are independently selected from H, (1-4C)alkyl, OH, (1-4C)alkoxy, (1-4C)alkylthio, amino, (1-4C)alkylcarbonylamino-, nitro, cyano,  $-\text{CHO}$ ,  $-\text{CO}(1-4\text{C})\text{alkyl}$ ,

20  $-\text{CONH}_2$  and  $-\text{CONH}(1-4\text{C})\text{alkyl}$ ;

wherein one of  $R_{3a}$ ,  $R_{5a}$ ,  $R_{3a'}$ ,  $R_{5a'}$  taken together with a substituent  $R_{1a}$  at position 4 of ring A and rings A and C' may form a 5-7 membered ring;

wherein any (1-4C)alkyl group may be optionally substituted with F, OH, (1-4C)alkoxy,  $-\text{S}(\text{O})_n(1-4\text{C})\text{alkyl}$  (wherein  $n = 0, 1, \text{or } 2$ ) or cyano;

25 wherein when ring C' is a pyridine ring (ie when group C is group H, I, J, K, N or O) the ring nitrogen may optionally be oxidised to an N-oxide;

$R_{1a}$  is independently selected from  $R_{1a1}$  to  $R_{1a5}$  below:

$R_{1a1}$ : AR1, AR2, AR2a, AR2b, AR3, AR3a, AR3b, AR4, AR4a, CY1, CY2;

$R_{1a2}$ : cyano, carboxy, (1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl,  $-\text{C}(=\text{W})\text{NR}_v\text{R}_w$  [wherein W is O or S,  $R_v$  and

30  $R_w$  are independently H, or (1-4C)alkyl and wherein  $R_v$  and  $R_w$  taken together with the amide or thioamide nitrogen to which they are attached can form a 5-7 membered ring

optionally with an additional heteroatom selected from N, O, S(O)<sub>n</sub> in place of 1 carbon atom of the so formed ring; wherein when said ring is a piperazine ring, the ring may be optionally substituted on the additional nitrogen by a group selected from (1-4C)alkyl, (3-6C)cycloalkyl, (1-4C)alkanoyl, -COO(1-4C)alkyl, -S(O)<sub>n</sub>(1-4C)alkyl (wherein n = 1 or 2), -COOAR1, 5 -CS(1-4C)alkyl and -C(=S)O(1-4C)alkyl; wherein any (1-4C)alkyl, (1-4C)alkanoyl and (3-6C)cycloalkyl substituent may itself be substituted by cyano, hydroxy or halo, provided that, such a substituent is not on a carbon adjacent to a nitrogen atom of the piperazine ring], ethenyl, 2-(1-4C)alkylethenyl, 2-cyanoethenyl, 2-cyano-2-((1-4C)alkyl)ethenyl, 2-nitroethenyl, 2-nitro-2-((1-4C)alkyl)ethenyl, 2-((1-4C)alkylaminocarbonyl)ethenyl, 10 2-((1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl)ethenyl, 2-(AR1)ethenyl, 2-(AR2)ethenyl, 2-(AR2a)ethenyl; R<sub>1a3</sub>: (1-10C)alkyl {optionally substituted by one or more groups (including geminal disubstitution) each independently selected from hydroxy, (1-10C)alkoxy, (1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy, (1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy, (1-4C)alkylcarbonyl, phosphoryl [-O-P(O)(OH)<sub>2</sub>, 15 and mono- and di-(1-4C)alkoxy derivatives thereof], phosphiryl [-O-P(OH)<sub>2</sub> and mono- and di-(1-4C)alkoxy derivatives thereof], and amino; and/or optionally substituted by one group selected from carboxy, phosphonate [phosphono, -P(O)(OH)<sub>2</sub>, and mono- and di-(1-4C)alkoxy derivatives thereof], phosphinate [-P(OH)<sub>2</sub> and mono- and di-(1-4C)alkoxy derivatives thereof], cyano, halo, trifluoromethyl, (1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl, (1-4C)alkoxy- 20 (1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl, (1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl, (1-6C)alkanoyloxy(1-4C)alkoxy, carboxy(1-4C)alkoxy, halo(1-4C)alkoxy, dihalo(1-4C)alkoxy, trihalo(1-4C)alkoxy, morpholino-ethoxy, (N'-methyl)piperazino-ethoxy, 2-, 3-, or 4-pyridyl(1-6C)alkoxy, N-methyl(imidazo-2 or 3-yl)(1-4C)alkoxy, imidazo-1-yl(1-6C)alkoxy, (1-4C)alkylamino, di((1-4C)alkyl)amino, (1-6C)alkanoylamino-, (1- 25 4C)alkoxycarbonylamino-, N-(1-4C)alkyl-N-(1-6C)alkanoylamino-, -C(=W)NR<sub>v</sub>R<sub>w</sub> [wherein W is O or S, R<sub>v</sub> and R<sub>w</sub> are independently H, or (1-4C)alkyl and wherein R<sub>v</sub> and R<sub>w</sub> taken together with the amide or thioamide nitrogen to which they are attached can form a 5-7 membered ring optionally with an additional heteroatom selected from N, O, S(O)<sub>n</sub> in place of 1 carbon atom of the so formed ring; wherein when said ring is a piperazine ring, the 30 ring may be optionally substituted on the additional nitrogen by a group selected from (1-4C)alkyl, (3-6C)cycloalkyl, (1-4C)alkanoyl, -COO(1-4C)alkyl, -S(O)<sub>n</sub>(1-4C)alkyl (wherein n = 1 or 2), -COOAR1, -CS(1-4C)alkyl and -C(=S)O(1-4C)alkyl], (=NOR<sub>v</sub>) wherein R<sub>v</sub> is as hereinbefore defined,

(1-4C)alkylS(O)<sub>p</sub>NH-, (1-4C)alkylS(O)<sub>p</sub>-((1-4C)alkyl)N-, fluoro(1-4C)alkylS(O)<sub>p</sub>NH-, fluoro(1-4C)alkylS(O)<sub>p</sub>-((1-4C)alkyl)N-, (1-4C)alkylS(O)<sub>q</sub>-, CY1, CY2, AR1, AR2, AR3, AR1-O-, AR2-O-, AR3-O-, AR1-S(O)<sub>q</sub>-, AR2-S(O)<sub>q</sub>-, AR3-S(O)<sub>q</sub>-, AR1-NH-, AR2-NH-, AR3-NH- (p is 1 or 2 and q is 0, 1 or 2), and also AR2a, AR2b, AR3a and AR3b versions of

5 AR2 and AR3 containing groups}; wherein any (1-4C)alkyl, (1-4C)alkanoyl and (3-6C)cycloalkyl present in any substituent on R<sub>1a3</sub> may itself be substituted by one or two groups selected from cyano, hydroxy, halo, amino, (1-4C)alkylamino and di(1-4C)alkylamino, provided that such a substituent is not on a carbon adjacent to a heteroatom atom if present;

R<sub>1a4</sub>: R<sup>14</sup>C(O)O(1-6C)alkyl [wherein R<sup>14</sup> is AR1, AR2, AR2a, AR2b, (1-4C)alkylamino,

10 benzyloxy-(1-4C)alkyl, naphthylmethyl, (1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy, (1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy, (1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy, (1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy, (1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy or (1-10C)alkyl {optionally substituted as defined for (R<sub>1a3</sub>)], imidazo-1-yl(1-6C)alkoxy(1-4C)alkyl,

15 morpholino-ethoxy(1-4C)alkyl, (N'-methyl)piperazino-ethoxy(1-4C)alkyl, 2-, 3-, or 4-pyridyl(1-6C)alkyloxy(1-4C)alkyl, 2-, 3-, or 4-pyridyl(1-6C)alkylamino(1-4C)alkyl, 2-, 3-, or 4-pyridyl(1-6C)alkylsulfonyl(1-4C)alkyl, N-methyl(imidazo-2 or 3-yl)(1-4C)alkyloxy(1-4C)alkyl;

R<sub>1a5</sub>: F, Cl, hydroxy, mercapto, (1-4C)alkylS(O)<sub>p</sub>- (p = 0, 1 or 2), -NR<sub>12</sub>R<sub>13</sub>,

20 -OSO<sub>2</sub>(1-4C)alkyl, -O(1-4C)alkanoyl, or -OR<sub>1a3</sub>;

m is 0, 1 or 2;

wherein two substituents R<sub>1a</sub> both at the 4 or 5 position of ring A taken together may form a 5 to 7 membered spiro ring;

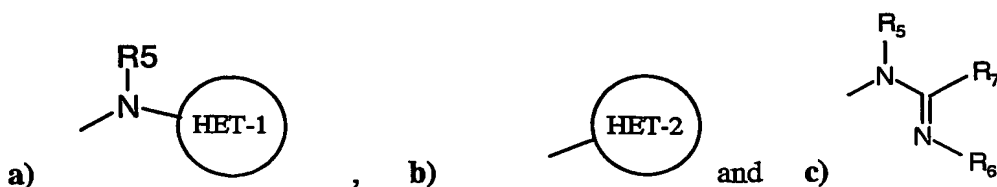
wherein two substituents R<sub>1a</sub> at the 4 and 5 positions of ring A taken together may form a 5 to

25 7 membered fused ring;

provided that if (R<sub>1a</sub>)<sub>m</sub> is a single substituent R<sub>1a</sub> at the 5 position of ring A then R<sub>1a</sub> is not -CH<sub>2</sub>X wherein X is selected from R<sub>1b</sub>;

R<sub>1b</sub> is independently selected from hydroxy, -OSi(tri-(1-6C)alkyl) (wherein the 3 (1-6C)alkyl groups are independently selected from all possible (1-6C)alkyl groups), -NR<sub>5</sub>C(=W)R<sub>4</sub>,

30 -OC(=O)R<sub>4</sub>,



wherein W is O or S;

provided that if group C is group H or group I, and if one of substituents  $R_{2b}$  and  $R_{6b}$  is H and the other is F, and if all of substituents  $R_{2a}$ ,  $R_{6a}$ ,  $R_{2a'}$ ,  $R_{6a'}$ ,  $R_{3a}$ ,  $R_{5a}$ ,  $R_{3a'}$ ,  $R_{5a'}$  are H at each occurrence, then  $R_{1b}$  is not  $-NHC(=O)Me$ ;

$R_4$  is selected from hydrogen, amino, (1-8C)alkyl, (2-6C)alkyl (substituted by 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from methyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, methoxy, methylthio, azido and cyano), methyl (substituted by 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from methyl, chloro, bromo, fluoro, methoxy, methylthio, hydroxy, benzyloxy, ethynyl, (1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl, azido and cyano),  $-NHR_{12}$ ,  $-N(R_{12})(R_{13})$ ,  $-OR_{12}$  or  $-SR_{12}$ , (2-4C)alkenyl,  $-(1-8C)$ alkylaryl, mono-, di-, tri- and per-halo(1-8C)alkyl,  $-(CH_2)_p(3-6C)$ cycloalkyl and  $-(CH_2)_p(3-6C)$ cycloalkenyl wherein p is 0, 1 or 2;

$R_5$  is selected from hydrogen, (3-6C)cycloalkyl, phenyloxycarbonyl, tert-butoxycarbonyl, fluorenyloxycarbonyl, benzyloxycarbonyl, (1-6C)alkyl (optionally substituted by cyano or (1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl),  $-CO_2R_8$ ,  $-C(=O)R_8$ ,  $-C(=O)SR_8$ ,  $-C(=S)R_8$ ,  $P(O)(OR_9)(OR_{10})$  and  $-SO_2R_{11}$ , wherein  $R_8$ ,  $R_9$ ,  $R_{10}$  and  $R_{11}$  are as defined hereinbelow;

HET-1 is selected from HET-1A and HET-1B wherein:

HET-1A is a C-linked 5-membered heteroaryl ring containing 2 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from N, O and S; which ring is optionally substituted on a C atom by an oxo or thioxo group; and/or which ring is optionally substituted on any available C atom by one or two substituents selected from RT as hereinafter defined and/or on an available nitrogen atom, (provided that the ring is not thereby quaternised) by (1-4C)alkyl;

HET-1B is a C-linked 6-membered heteroaryl ring containing 2 or 3 nitrogen heteroatoms, which ring is optionally substituted on a C atom by an oxo or thioxo group; and/or which ring is optionally substituted on any available C atom by one, two or three substituents selected from RT as hereinafter defined and/or on an available nitrogen atom, (provided that the ring is not thereby quaternised) by (1-4C)alkyl;

HET-2 is selected from HET-2A and HET-2B wherein

HET-2A is an N-linked 5-membered, fully or partially unsaturated heterocyclic ring, containing either (i) 1 to 3 further nitrogen heteroatoms or (ii) a further heteroatom selected

from O and S together with an optional further nitrogen heteroatom; which ring is optionally substituted on a C atom, other than a C atom adjacent to the linking N atom, by an oxo or thioxo group; and/or which ring is optionally substituted on any available C atom, other than a C atom adjacent to the linking N atom, by a substituent selected from RT as hereinafter

5 defined and/or on an available nitrogen atom, other than a N atom adjacent to the linking N atom, (provided that the ring is not thereby quaternised) by (1-4C)alkyl;

HET-2B is an N-linked 6-membered di-hydro-heteroaryl ring containing up to three nitrogen heteroatoms in total (including the linking heteroatom), which ring is substituted on a suitable C atom, other than a C atom adjacent to the linking N atom, by oxo or thioxo and/or which

10 ring is optionally substituted on any available C atom, other than a C atom adjacent to the linking N atom, by one or two substituents independently selected from RT as hereinafter defined and/or on an available nitrogen atom, other than a N atom adjacent to the linking N atom, (provided that the ring is not thereby quaternised) by (1-4C)alkyl;

RT is selected from a substituent from the group:

15 (RTa1) hydrogen, halogen, (1-4C)alkoxy, (2-4C)alkenyloxy, (2-4C)alkenyl, (2-4C)alkynyl, (1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl, (3-6C)cycloalkyl, (3-6C)cycloalkenyl, (1-4C)alkylthio, amino, azido, cyano and nitro; or

(RTa2) (1-4C)alkylamino, di-(1-4C)alkylamino, and (2-4C)alkenylamino;  
or RT is selected from the group

20 (RTb1) (1-4C)alkyl group which is optionally substituted by one substituent selected from hydroxy, (1-4C)alkoxy, (1-4C)alkylthio, cyano and azido; or

(RTb2) (1-4C)alkyl group which is optionally substituted by one substituent selected from (2-4C)alkenyloxy, (3-6C)cycloalkyl, and (3-6C)cycloalkenyl;  
or RT is selected from the group

25 (RTc) a fully saturated 4-membered monocyclic ring containing 1 or 2 heteroatoms independently selected from O, N and S (optionally oxidised), and linked via a ring nitrogen or carbon atom;

and wherein at each occurrence of an RT substituent containing an alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl or cycloalkenyl moiety in (RTa1) or (RTa2), (RTb1) or (RTb2), or (RTc) each

30 such moiety is optionally substituted on an available carbon atom with one, two, three or more substituents independently selected from F, Cl, Br, OH and CN;

R<sub>6</sub> is cyano, -COR<sub>12</sub>, -COOR<sub>12</sub>, -CONHR<sub>12</sub>, -CON(R<sub>12</sub>)(R<sub>13</sub>), -SO<sub>2</sub>R<sub>12</sub>, -SO<sub>2</sub>NHR<sub>12</sub>, -SO<sub>2</sub>N(R<sub>12</sub>)(R<sub>13</sub>) or NO<sub>2</sub>, wherein R<sub>12</sub> and R<sub>13</sub> are as defined hereinbelow;

R<sub>7</sub> is hydrogen, amino, (1-8C)alkyl, -NHR<sub>12</sub>, -N(R<sub>12</sub>)(R<sub>13</sub>), -OR<sub>12</sub> or -SR<sub>12</sub>, (2-4C)alkenyl, -(1-8C)alkylaryl, mono-, di-, tri- and per-halo(1-8C)alkyl, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>(3-6C)cycloalkyl or -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>(3-6C)cycloalkenyl wherein p is 0, 1 or 2;

R<sub>8</sub> is hydrogen, (3-6C)cycloalkyl, phenyl, benzyl, (1-5C)alkanoyl, (1-6C)alkyl (optionally substituted by substituents independently selected from (1-5C)alkoxycarbonyl, hydroxy, cyano, up to 3 halogen atoms and -NR<sub>15</sub>R<sub>16</sub> (wherein R<sub>15</sub> and R<sub>16</sub> are independently selected from hydrogen, phenyl (optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from halogen, (1-4C)alkyl and (1-4C)alkyl substituted with one, two, three or more halogen atoms) and (1-4C)alkyl (optionally substituted with one, two, three or more halogen atoms), or for any N(R<sub>15</sub>)(R<sub>16</sub>) group, R<sub>15</sub> and R<sub>16</sub> may additionally be taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached to form a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl or morpholinyl ring);

R<sub>9</sub> and R<sub>10</sub> are independently selected from hydrogen and (1-4C)alkyl;

R<sub>11</sub> is (1-4C)alkyl or phenyl;

R<sub>12</sub> and R<sub>13</sub> are independently selected from hydrogen, phenyl (optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from halogen, (1-4C)alkyl and (1-4C)alkyl substituted with one, two, three or more halogen atoms) and (1-4C)alkyl (optionally substituted with one, two, three or more halogen atoms), or for any N(R<sub>12</sub>)(R<sub>13</sub>) group, R<sub>12</sub> and R<sub>13</sub> may additionally be taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached to form a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl or morpholinyl ring, which ring may be optionally substituted by a group selected from (1-4C)alkyl, (3-6C)cycloalkyl, (1-4C)alkanoyl, -COO(1-4C)alkyl, S(O)<sub>n</sub>(1-4C)alkyl (wherein n = 1 or 2), -COOAR<sub>1</sub>, -CS(1-4C)alkyl and -C(=S)O(1-4C)alkyl;

AR<sub>1</sub> is an optionally substituted phenyl or optionally substituted naphthyl;

AR<sub>2</sub> is an optionally substituted 5- or 6-membered, fully unsaturated (i.e. with the maximum degree of unsaturation) monocyclic heteroaryl ring containing up to four heteroatoms independently selected from O, N and S (but not containing any O-O, O-S or S-S bonds), and linked via a ring carbon atom, or a ring nitrogen atom if the ring is not thereby quaternised; AR<sub>2a</sub> is a partially hydrogenated version of AR<sub>2</sub> (i.e. AR<sub>2</sub> systems retaining some, but not the full, degree of unsaturation), linked via a ring carbon atom or linked via a ring nitrogen atom if the ring is not thereby quaternised;

AR<sub>2b</sub> is a fully hydrogenated version of AR<sub>2</sub> (i.e. AR<sub>2</sub> systems having no unsaturation), linked via a ring carbon atom or linked via a ring nitrogen atom;

AR<sub>3</sub> is an optionally substituted 8-, 9- or 10-membered, fully unsaturated (i.e. with the maximum degree of unsaturation) bicyclic heteroaryl ring containing up to four heteroatoms

independently selected from O, N and S (but not containing any O-O, O-S or S-S bonds), and linked via a ring carbon atom in either of the rings comprising the bicyclic system;

**AR3a** is a partially hydrogenated version of AR3 (i.e. AR3 systems retaining some, but not the full, degree of unsaturation), linked via a ring carbon atom, or linked via a ring nitrogen

5 atom if the ring is not thereby quaternised, in either of the rings comprising the bicyclic system;

**AR3b** is a fully hydrogenated version of AR3 (i.e. AR3 systems having no unsaturation), linked via a ring carbon atom, or linked via a ring nitrogen atom, in either of the rings comprising the bicyclic system;

10 **AR4** is an optionally substituted 13- or 14-membered, fully unsaturated (i.e. with the maximum degree of unsaturation) tricyclic heteroaryl ring containing up to four heteroatoms independently selected from O, N and S (but not containing any O-O, O-S or S-S bonds), and linked via a ring carbon atom in any of the rings comprising the tricyclic system;

**AR4a** is a partially hydrogenated version of AR4 (i.e. AR4 systems retaining some, but not  
15 the full, degree of unsaturation), linked via a ring carbon atom, or linked via a ring nitrogen atom if the ring is not thereby quaternised, in any of the rings comprising the tricyclic system;

**CY1** is an optionally substituted cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl or cyclohexyl ring;

**CY2** is an optionally substituted cyclopentenyl or cyclohexenyl ring;

wherein; optional substituents on AR1, AR2, AR2a, AR2b, AR3, AR3a, AR3b, AR4, AR4a,

20 **CY1** and **CY2** are (on an available carbon atom) up to three substituents independently selected from (1-4C)alkyl {optionally substituted by substituents selected independently from hydroxy, trifluoromethyl, (1-4C)alkyl S(O)<sub>q</sub>- (q is 0, 1 or 2), (1-4C)alkoxy,

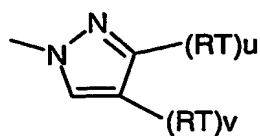
(1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl, cyano, nitro, (1-4C)alkanoylamino, -CONR<sub>v</sub>R<sub>w</sub> or -NR<sub>v</sub>R<sub>w</sub>}, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, halo, nitro, cyano, thiol, (1-4C)alkoxy, (1-4C)alkanoyloxy,

25 dimethylaminomethyleneaminocarbonyl, di(N-(1-4C)alkyl)aminomethylimino, carboxy, (1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl, (1-4C)alkanoyl, (1-4C)alkylSO<sub>2</sub>amino, (2-4C)alkenyl {optionally substituted by carboxy or (1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl}, (2-4C)alkynyl, (1-4C)alkanoylamino, oxo (=O), thioxo (=S), (1-4C)alkanoylamino {the (1-4C)alkanoyl group being optionally substituted by hydroxy}, (1-4C)alkyl S(O)<sub>q</sub>- (q is 0, 1 or 2) {the (1-4C)alkyl group being  
30 optionally substituted by one or more groups independently selected from cyano, hydroxy and (1-4C)alkoxy}, -CONR<sub>v</sub>R<sub>w</sub> or -NR<sub>v</sub>R<sub>w</sub> [wherein R<sub>v</sub> is hydrogen or (1-4C)alkyl; R<sub>w</sub> is hydrogen or (1-4C)alkyl];

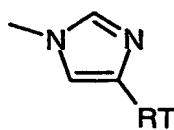


- and further optional substituents on AR1, AR2, AR2a, AR2b, AR3, AR3a, AR3b, AR4, AR4a, CY1 and CY2 (on an available carbon atom), and also on alkyl groups (unless indicated otherwise) are up to three substituents independently selected from trifluoromethoxy, benzoylamino, benzoyl, phenyl {optionally substituted by up to three
- 5 substituents independently selected from halo, (1-4C)alkoxy or cyano }, furan, pyrrole, pyrazole, imidazole, triazole, pyrimidine, pyridazine, pyridine, isoxazole, oxazole, isothiazole, thiazole, thiophene, hydroxyimino(1-4C)alkyl, (1-4C)alkoxyimino(1-4C)alkyl, halo-(1-4C)alkyl, (1-4C)alkanesulfonamido, -SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sub>v</sub>R<sub>w</sub> [wherein R<sub>v</sub> is hydrogen or (1-4C)alkyl; R<sub>w</sub> is hydrogen or (1-4C)alkyl]; and
- 10 optional substituents on AR2, AR2a, AR2b, AR3, AR3a, AR3b, AR4 and AR4a are (on an available nitrogen atom, where such substitution does not result in quaternization) (1-4C)alkyl, (1-4C)alkanoyl {wherein the (1-4C)alkyl and (1-4C)alkanoyl groups are optionally substituted by (preferably one) substituents independently selected from cyano, hydroxy, nitro, trifluoromethyl, (1-4C)alkyl S(O)<sub>q</sub>- (q is 0, 1 or 2), (1-4C)alkoxy,
- 15 (1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl, (1-4C)alkanoylamino, -CONR<sub>v</sub>R<sub>w</sub> or -NR<sub>v</sub>R<sub>w</sub> [wherein R<sub>v</sub> is hydrogen or (1-4C)alkyl; R<sub>w</sub> is hydrogen or (1-4C)alkyl]}, (2-4C)alkenyl, (2-4C)alkynyl, (1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl or oxo (to form an N-oxide).
2. A compound of the formula (I) or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt, or in-vivo
- 20 hydrolysable ester thereof, as claimed in claim 1, wherein group C is represented by any one of groups D, E, H and I.
3. A compound of the formula (I) or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt, or in-vivo hydrolysable ester thereof, as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, wherein R<sub>1a</sub> and R<sub>1b</sub> are
- 25 independently selected from -NHCO(1-4C)alkyl, -NHCO(1-4C)cycloalkyl, -NHCS(1-4C)alkyl, -N(R<sub>5</sub>)-HET-1 and HET-2.
4. A compound of the formula (I) or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt, or in-vivo hydrolysable ester thereof, as claimed in claim 1, claim 2 or claim 3, wherein HET-2A is
- 30 selected from the structures (Za) to (Zf) below:

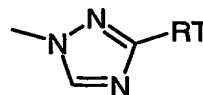
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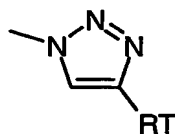
(Za)



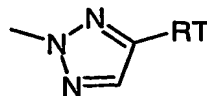
(Zb)



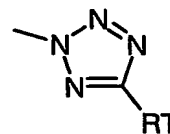
(Zc)



(Zd)



(Ze)

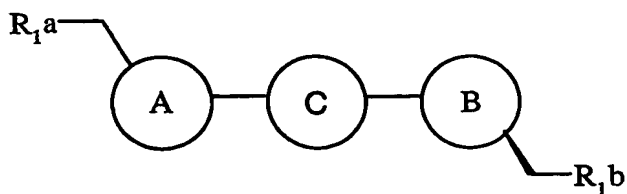


(Zf)

wherein u and v are independently 0 or 1.

5. A compound of the formula (I) or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt, or in-vivo  
5 hydrolysable ester thereof, as claimed in claim 4 wherein RT is selected from
  - (a) hydrogen;
  - (b) halogen;
  - (c) cyano;
  - (d) (1-4C)alkyl;
  - 10 (e) monosubstituted (1-4C)alkyl;
  - (f) disubstituted (1-4C)alkyl, and  
trisubstituted (1-4C)alkyl.
  
6. A compound of the formula (I) or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt, or in-vivo  
15 hydrolysable ester thereof, as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein at least one  
of A and B is an oxazolidinone.
  
7. A compound of the formula (I) or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt, or in-vivo  
hydrolysable ester thereof, as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein A is an  
20 isoxazoline and B is an oxazolidinone.
  
8. A compound of the formula (I) or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt, or in-vivo  
hydrolysable ester thereof, as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein group C is  
represented by Group H.

9. A compound of the formula (Ia) or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt, or in-vivo hydrolysable ester thereof, as claimed in any one of the preceding claims.



5

10. A pro-drug of a compound as claimed in any one of the previous claims.

11. A method for producing an antibacterial effect in a warm blooded animal which comprises administering to said animal an effective amount of a compound of the invention as  
10 claimed in any one of claims 1 to 9, or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt, or in-vivo hydrolysable ester thereof.

12. A compound of the invention as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10, or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt, or in-vivo hydrolysable ester thereof, for use as a  
15 medicament.

13. The use of a compound of the invention as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10, or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt, or in-vivo hydrolysable ester thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the production of an antibacterial effect in a warm blooded animal.

20

14. A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound of the invention as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10, or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt or an in-vivo hydrolysable ester thereof, and a pharmaceutically-acceptable diluent or carrier.

25 15. A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 14, wherein said composition includes a vitamin.

16. A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 15 wherein said vitamin is Vitamin B.

30

17. A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 14, wherein said composition comprises a combination of a compound of the formula (I) and an antibacterial agent active against gram-positive bacteria.

18. A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 14, wherein said composition comprises a combination of a compound of the formula (I) and an antibacterial agent active against gram-negative bacteria.

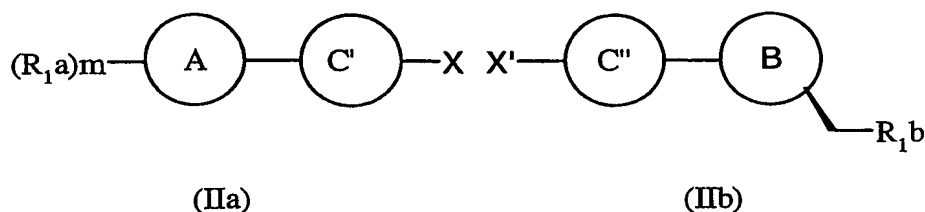
19. A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1 or pharmaceutically acceptable salts or in-vivo hydrolysable esters thereof, which process comprises one of processes (a) to (j): and thereafter if necessary:

- i) removing any protecting groups;
- ii) forming a pro-drug (for example an in-vivo hydrolysable ester); and/or
- iii) forming a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt;

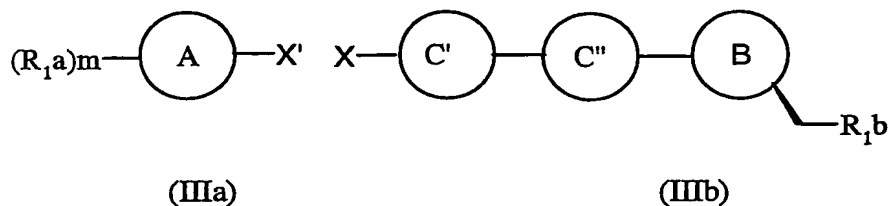
wherein said processes (a) to (j) are:

(a) modifying a substituent in, or introducing a substituent into another compound of the invention by using standard chemistry;

(b) reaction of a molecule of a compound of formula (IIa) with a molecule of a compound of formula (IIb) wherein X and X' are leaving groups useful in palladium coupling and are chosen such that an aryl-aryl, heteroaryl-aryl, or heteroaryl-heteroaryl bond replaces the aryl-X (or heteroaryl-X) and aryl-X' (or heteroaryl-X') bonds;

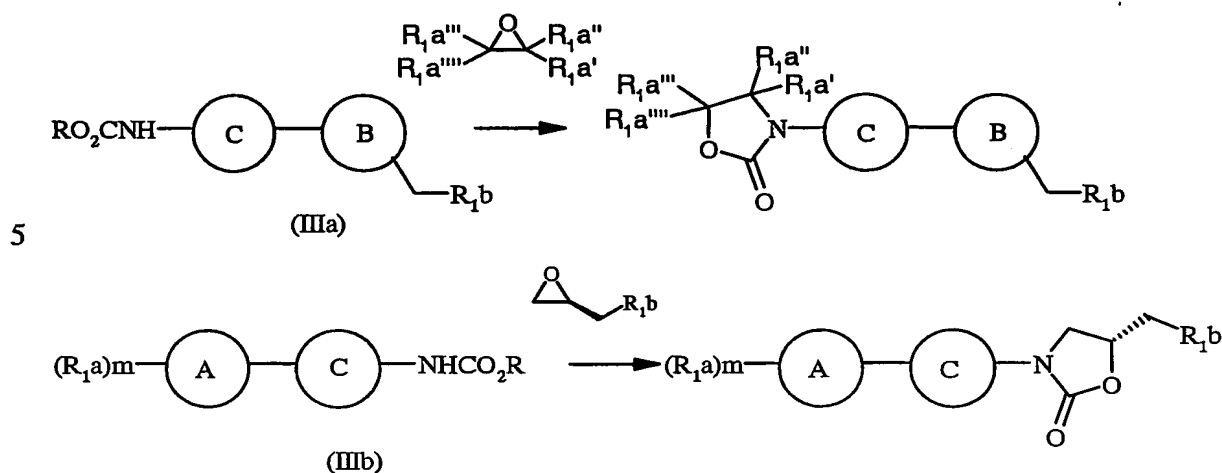


(c) reaction of a compound of formula (IIIa) with a compound of formula (IIIb):



where X and X' are replaceable substituents and wherein the substituents X and X' are chosen to be complementary pairs of substituents known in the art to be suitable as complementary substrates for coupling reactions catalysed by transition metals;

(d) reaction of a (hetero)biaryl derivative (IIIa) or (IIIb) carbamate with an appropriately substituted oxirane (wherein 0, 1, or 2 of  $R_{1a'}$ - $R_{1a''''}$  are substituents as defined for  $R_{1a}$  and the remainder are hydrogen) to form an oxazolidinone ring at the undeveloped aryl position;

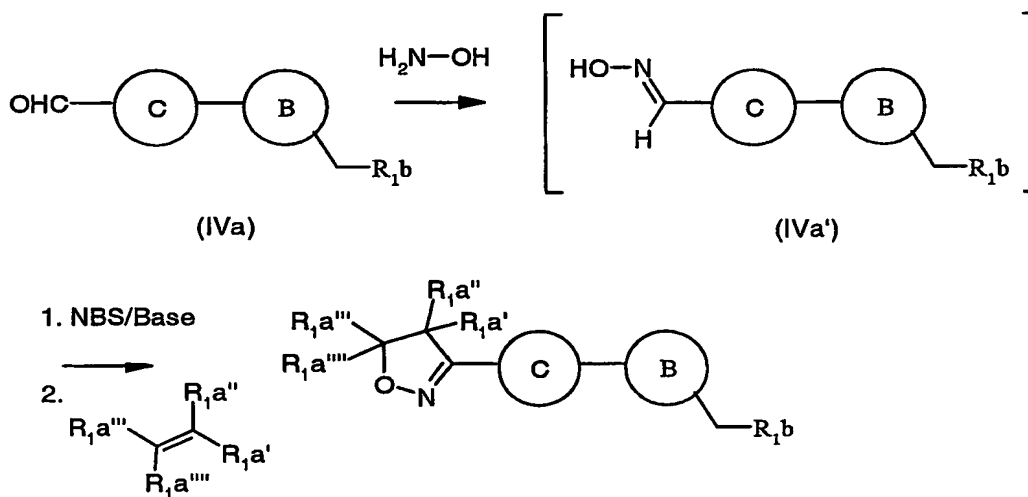


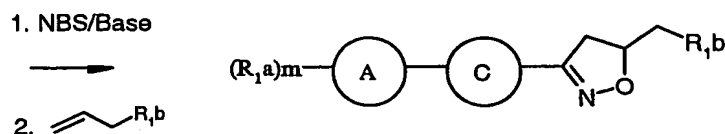
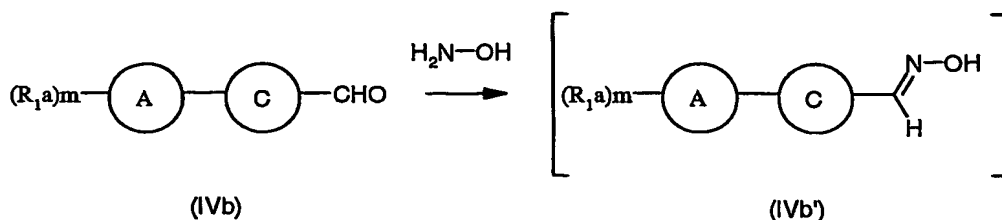
or by variations on this process in which the carbamate is replaced by an isocyanate or by an amine or/and in which the oxirane is replaced by an equivalent reagent X-

$C(R_{1a'})(R_{1a''})C(R_{1a'''})(O\text{-optionally protected})(R_{1a''''})$  or  $X\text{-CH}_2\text{CH}(O\text{-optionally}$

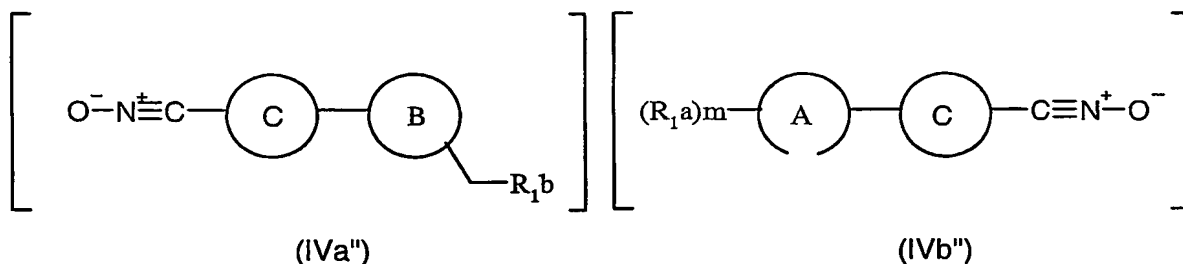
10 protected) $\text{CH}_2R_{1b}$  where X is a displaceable group;

(e) reaction of a (hetero)biaryl derivative (IVa) or (IVb) to form an isoxazoline ring at the undeveloped aryl position;





or by variations on this process in which the reactive intermediate (a nitrile oxide IVa'' or IVb'') is obtained other than by oxidation of an oxime (IVa') or (IVb');



- 5 (f) for HET as optionally substituted 1,2,3-triazoles, by cycloaddition via the azide (wherein e.g. Y in (II) is azide) to acetylenes, or to acetylene equivalents or optionally substituted ethylenes bearing eliminatable substituents;
- (g) for HET as 4-substituted 1,2,3-triazole compounds of formula (I) by reacting aminomethyloxazolidinones with 1,1-dihaloketone sulfonylhydrazones
- 10 (h) for HET as 4-substituted 1,2,3-triazole compounds of formula (I) by reacting azidomethyl oxazolidinones with terminal alkynes using Cu(I) catalysis to give 4-substituted 1,2,3-triazoles
- (j) for HET as 4-halogenated 1,2,3-triazole compounds of formula (I) by reacting azidomethyl oxazolidinones with halovinylsulfonyl chlorides at a temperature between 0 °C and 100 °C either neat or in an inert diluent.